

# United States Department of the Interior California Department of Parks and Recreation

**Redwood National and State Parks** 

1111 Second Street Crescent City, California 95531



A3815

September 15, 2010

Douglas Bosco Chairman, Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco,

As the Superintendents of Redwood National and State Parks, we are pleased to support the Battery Point Lighthouse tower repair project in Crescent City, California. This historic lighthouse is a local treasure, and provides an Aid to Navigation for commercial and recreational vessels, an educational opportunity for local youth, and a large draw for visitors to the Parks, Del Norte County, and the North Coast region. The facility also offers views of the Castle Rock National Wildlife Refuge, the Crescent City Harbor, nearby beaches and rock outcrops, and marine wildlife and bird species.

The existing large crack in the tower prevented several groups from experiencing the spectacular views from the top of the lighthouse during this past summer, and will continue to degrade the structure if it is not addressed. This repair project will have a positive lasting impact on the natural, cultural, and economic value of the lighthouse, which will in turn benefit Del Norte County residents and visitors.

Thank you for considering this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Steve W. Chaney

NPS Superintendent

Jeff Bomke

CDPR Superintendent

SEP 2 1 2010

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Elk Valley Ranchería, Californía



2332 Howland Hill Road Crescent City, CA 95531

> Phone: 707.464.4680 Fax: 707.465.2638 www.elk-valley.com

September 10, 2010

Chairman Douglas Bosco California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Lighthouse Tower Project; Support

Dear Chair Bosco:

The Elk Valley Rancheria, California ("Tribe"), a federally recognized Indian tribe in Del Norte County understands that the County of Del Norte County (the "County") in conjunction with the Del Norte Historical Society (the "Society") seeks to secure funds from the California State Coastal Conservancy (the "Conservancy") to assist with the maintenance and restoration of the Battery Point Lighthouse in Crescent City. The Tribe supports the County and Society's joint request for Conservancy funds.

During the 1850s, sixteen lighthouses were commissioned for the Pacific Coast, of which Battery Point Lighthouse is one of only four remaining; and of those four, it is the only lighthouse not managed by the Federal Government. Rather, the lighthouse is owned by the County, managed by the Society and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Lighthouse, still manned by a Keeper who lives onsite, serves as the primary navigational aid for Crescent City harbor. As an icon of the Northcoast and an anchor of the Northern California Coastal Trail, the Lighthouse draws annually more than 15,000 visitors who come to learn about the region and our history.

The Lighthouse is an important symbol for our community, a significant tourism icon for the region and a critical component of the Northcoast's marine safety agenda. The Tribe's economic and social vitality is inherently tied to a healthy marine environment and a vibrant tourism economy. The Tribe supports the County and Society's efforts to undertake both critical repair and maintenance work on the Lighthouse; and to improve trails leading to, and signage at the Lighthouse that will enhance the visitor experience.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Miller

Miller.

Chairman

Cc: Elk Valley Tribal Council

Board of Directors, Del Norte County Historical Society Board of Supervisors, Del Norte County Historical Society

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



## Smith River Rancheria

140 Rowdy Creek Rd, Smith River, CA 95567-9525 Ph: (707) 487-9255 Fax: (707) 487-9930

Kara Brundin Miller Chairperson

Denise Padgette Vice Chairperson

Sharyne R. Harper Council Secretary

Joel Bravo Treasurer

Marian Lopez Council Member

Loren Bommelyn Council Member

Joseph Giovannetti Council Member

Russ Crabtree Tribal Administrator September 16, 2010

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13 Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

On behalf of the Smith River Rancheria Tribal Council, please accept this letter of support for the Taa-'at-nin'-le'-dvn (Battery Point) Lighthouse Tower project in Crescent City, CA. The lighthouse in Crescent is a true treasure and serves as an aid to navigation and tourism. There are thousands of visitors annually to the lighthouse, which educates visitors on many topics including local history, on shore and near shore marine life, migration patterns of birds, and conservation.

This project will have positive and lasting impacts for Crescent City and Del Norte County. By improving access, and securing the tower, visitors will continue to increase and the lighthouse will continue to be a community treasure far into the future.

Thank you for considering this most worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Kara Brundin Miller, Tribal Chair On behalf of the SRR Tribal Council

Cc: Tribal Council

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY OAKLAND, CALIF.



#### DEL NORTE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION ♦ DEL NORTE COUNTY UNIFIED

Janice C. Moorehouse County and District Superintendent

Email – jmooreĥouse@delnorte.k12.ca.us

EDUCATION CENTER
301 W. Washington Boulevard
Crescent City, CA 95531
Web: www.delnorte.k12.ca.us

Office - 707-464-0200 Fax - 707-464-0238

**Board Members:** 

Bob Berkowitz Area 1

Tom Cochran Area 5 Frances Costello Area 3 Jim Maready Area 4 Bill Parker Area 2

September 20, 2010

Chair of the Conservancy, Doug Bosco Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

#### Dear Chair Bosco:

This letter is in support of the Lighthouse Tower project in Crescent City, California. The lighthouse in Crescent City is a true treasure and serves as an aid to navigation and tourism. There are thousands of visitors annually to the lighthouse which educates visitors on many topics including local history, on shore and near shore marine life, migration patterns of birds, and conservation.

This project will have positive and lasting impacts for Crescent City and Del Norte County. By improving access, and securing the tower, visitors will continue to increase and the lighthouse will be enjoyed by all.

Hundreds of students from Del Norte County schools tour the lighthouse each year, with the climb to the tower with its 360 degree view of the Pacific Ocean and beaches being a definite highlight. The current unsafe conditions due to rainwater leaking onto the tower floor and ladder have limited student access to the tower. This year 120 students missed out on visiting arguably the counties premier coastal viewing site during June's late rains.

Thank you for considering this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Jan Moorehouse Superintendent

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY OAKLAND, CALIF.



377 J STREET

CRESCENT CITY, CALIFORNIA 95531-4025

Administration/Finance: Utilities: 707-464-7483 707-464-6517 Public Works/Planning: FAX:

707-464-9506 707-465-4405

September 10, 2010

Doug Bosco Chair of the Conservancy Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chair Bosco,

On behalf of the entire City Council of Crescent City, I am sending this letter in support of the Lighthouse Tower project in Crescent City, California. The lighthouse in Crescent City is a true treasure and serves as an aid to navigation and tourism. There are thousands of visitors annually to the lighthouse, and these visitors are educated on many topics including local history, on-shore and near-shore marine life, migration patterns of birds, and conservation.

Tourism is a key component of Crescent City's economy, and the Battery Point Lighthouse is a focal point of our local tourism activity. Crescent City was recently named "one of America's Prettiest Towns" by Forbes Traveler.com, and the City is working hard to increase the number of visitors to our community each year. Investments in the upkeep of tourist attractions like the Lighthouse will help us achieve this goal.

This project will have positive and lasting impacts for Crescent City and Del Norte County. By improving access and securing the tower, the project will ensure that the lighthouse will be enjoyed by all who visit this truly beautiful California coastal landmark.

Thank you for considering this important and worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Rod B. Butler City Manager

To Whom it May Concern,

The County of Del Norte, in cooperation with the Del Norte County Historical Society, is working with the State Coastal Conservancy to secure funds for Battery Point Lighthouse. The grant will be user for structural repair, trail improvement and signage. Your letter of support is needed and requested.

Battery Point Lighthouse is one of the last four of the first sixteen lighthouses built on the Pacific Coast during the 1850's. Of the four, Battery Point is the only lighthouse not managed by the Federal Government and remains the only lighthouse on the West Coast still manned by a keeper. Although still guiding mariners to safe harbor through rocky shores, today it's whitewashed walls, red roof, and tall tower lure 15,000 to 20,000 visitors yearly to the coast and anchors the northernmost section of the California Coastal Trail. Many of these lighthouse visitors have their first insight into the relationship between the ocean and themselves when they realize they must adjust their travel plans to the tides as the island is only accessible during low tide. The highlight of the lighthouse tour is a chance to climb its tower's spiral staircase to the lantern room where the 360 degree view reveals the balancing act of the California coast-migrating whales to the west, Castle Rock National Wildlife Sanctuary to the north, a cattle ranch on northeast bluffs, a city of 4,000 to the east, a working harbor to the southeast, and the recreational Mecca of South Beach's soft sand to the south.

The tower roof is in need of repair due to a 20 inch crack in the cast iron cap, which is believed to be a structural failure not related to general maintenance. The leaking tower window will be removed, refurbished, and replaced, and the keeper's walk safety restored. Without these repairs storm driven rain and sea water threaten to damage the interior of the building and its masonry walls, and are limiting public access due to the unsafe conditions. During this year's late rains over 100 visitors, mostly school children, were not allowed to access the tower due to unsafe wet conditions on the steel floor and access ladder.

This project will also stabilize and improve the access ramp from the beach to Lighthouse Island. The ramp is in need of upgrades as the water has severely eroded the bottom portion of the ramp and there is degradation of the cement on the trail which require additional steps and rails.

The lighthouse, built in 1856 and listed on the National Register, is also an Aid-to-Navigation. The lighthouse is owned by the County and managed by the Historical Society, and sees over 15,000 visitors each year.

Neither the County nor the Society has the funds available for the extensive work that is needed to restore the access ramp to the island and the tower which is a highlight of the lighthouse tour. With your support and the support of the Coastal Conservancy this local, state and federal treasure can remain open to the public for another hundred years to come.

The County and Historical Society would appreciate a letter of support from your organization. All support letters should be sent by September 17, 2010

Please send your letter of support to:

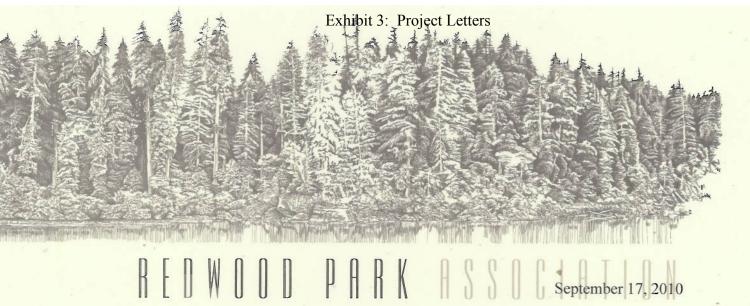
Chair of the Conservancy, Douglas Bosco Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> floor Oakland, CA 94612

Thank you for your anticipated support

Sincerely yours,

Martha McClure

:Attachment sample support letter



Doug Bosco, Chair Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chair Bosco,

At its regular Board meeting of September 8, 2010, the Redwood Park Association voted unanimously to send this letter of support for the Battery Lighthouse Tower project in Crescent City.

The lighthouse is a true treasure and still serves as an aid to navigation as well as attracting thousands of visitors each year. This lighthouse serves to educate visitors on many topics including local history, on shore and near shore marine life, migration patterns of birds, and conservation.

This project will have positive and lasting impacts for Crescent City and Del Norte County. By improving access, and securing the tower, visitors will continue to increase and the lighthouse will be enjoyed by all. Without this project, the structural integrity of the lighthouse is in jeopardy and visitors will be unable to benefit from its existence. It is critical that this historic lighthouse be maintained in perpetuity. The Coastal Conservancy can help make it happen.

Thank you for considering this worthwhile project.

Sincerely.

Rick Knapp, Chair

Redwood Park Association

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY OAKLAND, CALIF.



Chair of the Conservancy, Doug Bosco Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13 Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chair Bosco,

This letter is in support of the Battery Point Lighthouse Tower project in Crescent City, CA. The lighthouse in Crescent City is a true treasure and serves as an aid to navigation and tourism. Over 15,000 visitors travel annually to the lighthouse which educates visitors on many topics including local history, on shore and near shore marine life, migration patterns of birds, and conservation.

This project will have positive and lasting impacts for Crescent City and Del Norte County. By improving access, and securing the tower, visitor numbers will continue to increase and the lighthouse will continue to be enjoyed by all. Without funding, the lighthouse will continue to deteriorate and visitors will be turned away due to unsafe conditions.

I ask that you carefully consider the impact this project would have on this historical landmark and the region and grant the request full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Burns

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY OAKLAND, CALIF.

### Julie A. Hertzig 100 Hillside Place Jackson, CA 95642

Chair of the Conservancy, Doug Bosco Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13 Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chair Bosco,

Mr. Bosco, I visited this lighthouse in October 2003 on my way back from a trip to Oregon. I am a lighthouse enthuses and this one in particular is one of my favorites, because of how it sits on top of the crest of a hill and the Cape Cod style lighthouse and is for sure <u>one to be treasured</u>.

This letter is in support of the Lighthouse Tower project in Crescent City, CA. The lighthouse in Crescent is a true treasure and serves as an aid to navigation and tourism. There are thousands of visitors annually to the lighthouse which educates visitors on many topics including local history, on shore and near shore marine life, migration patterns of birds, and conservation.

This project will have positive and lasting impacts for Crescent City and Del Norte County. By improving access, and securing the tower, visitors will continue to increase and the lighthouse will be enjoyed by all.

Thank you for considering this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Hertzia

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